

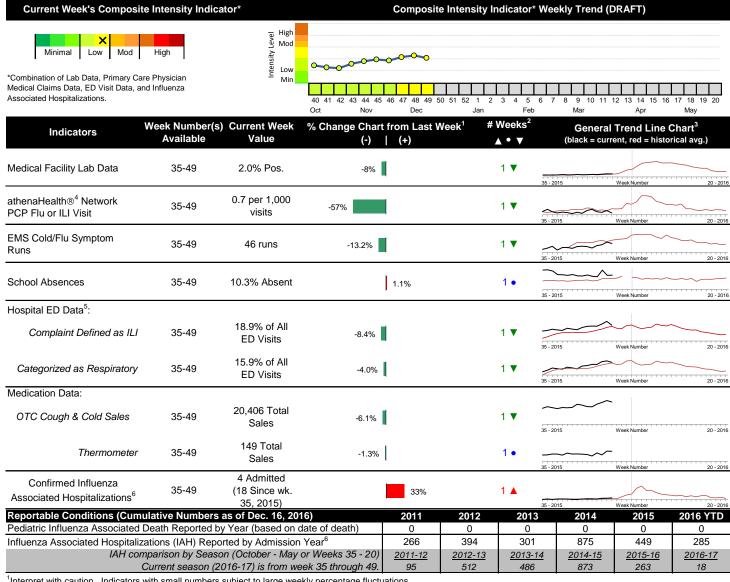
# 2016-2017 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 49, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016– Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016)



## **Highlights**

- In week 49 of 2016, the majority of individual local flu activity indicator trends decreased. As a whole, flu intensity was low and decreased slightly compared to the past couple weeks.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click here for definitions) = REGIONAL, LOW
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,050 tests run with 21 (2.0%) positive results for week 49 of 2016. This is lower than last week's 2.2% and is higher than the weekly baseline.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms decreased compared to week 48. The percentage of ED visits for both ILI and respiratory symptoms are close to their respective baseline averages for the
- In week 49 of 2016, the trend for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in pediatric anti-fever sales; decrease in cough and cold and chest rub sales; stable electrolyte, thermometer, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity increased slightly in week 49. Please visit the CDC website for specific information (National data is usually updated on Friday of each week).

### Local Flu Activity Dashboard (All data are preliminary and may change as updated reports are received.)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Number of weeks "▲" = Increase (>2%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%), "●" = Stable (-2% to +2%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Data Source: Medical claims data from athenaHealth® (www.athenahealth.com). Rate of Flu or ILI visits to Franklin County, OH athenaHealth® network primary care practices/physicians. Claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are recieved

Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zipcode). NOTE: Excludes one hospital system included in the past due to technical changes affecting visit classification assignment and numbers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Confirmed cases only. Based on jurisdiction equal to Franklin County or City of Columbus and admission date available in ODRS.

## Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

In week 49, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-Illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (0.7 per 1,000 visits) decreased compared to the previous week and is below its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 49 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI decreased compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is close to its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 49 of 2016, 1.9% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is below the national baseline of 2.2% for week 49.

### **Laboratory Surveillance**

During week 49 of 2016, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,050 specimens, with 21 (2.0%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2016 through week 49 of 2016 is 10,879 with 131 (1.2%) positives (65 type A, 64 type B, 2 type A and B, 0 type unknown).

Nationally in week 49 of 2016, clinical laboratories reported 15,117 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 728 (4.8%) of which were positive (575 type A, 153 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 928 specimens, 206 of which were positive (198 type A – of which 6 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 158 were A/H3, and 34 were not subtyped; 8 type B – of which 2 were Yamagata lineage, 3 were Victoria lineage, and 3 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data since week 40.

In week 49 of 2016, participating Ohio clinical labs reported 10,917 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (0) A(H1N1)pdm09; (4) A/H3N2; (70) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (33) Flu B (through 12/10/16). ODH Public Health Lab reported 73 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (0) A(H1N1)pdm09; (13) A/H3N2; (2) Influenza B (through 12/10/16). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

## **ED Respiratory Visits**

In the 49<sup>th</sup> week of 2016, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory decreased slightly compared to the percentage seen the previous week and is close to its historic baseline for the week (Figure 5).

## **Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales**

In week 49 of 2016, the trend for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in pediatric anti-fever sales; decrease in cough and cold and chest rub sales; stable electrolyte, thermometer, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.

#### **Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:**

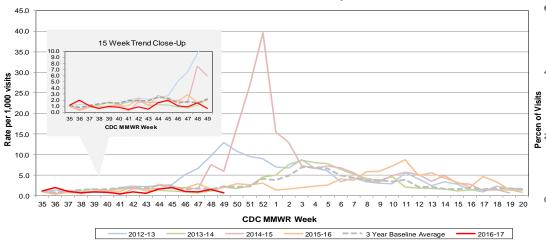
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: http://www.odh.ohio.gov/features/odhfeatures/seasflu/ohfluactivity.aspx

CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

CDC International Flu Activity Map: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/international/activity.htm

World Health Organization Situation Updates: <a href="http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance-monitoring/en/">http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance-monitoring/en/</a>

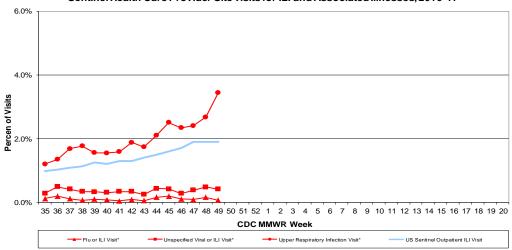
Figure 1: Local Participating Outpatient Primary Care Provider Influenza or Influenza -Like-Illness Visit Rate\*, Franklin County, OH



<sup>\*</sup>Source: Medical Claims data from athenaHealth®

Note: athenaHealth® claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are recieved.

Figure 2: Percentage of Local Outpatient Participating Provider\* and CDC National Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider Site visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2016-17



<sup>\*</sup>Source: Local medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®

 $Note: athena Health @\ claims\ data\ are\ subject\ to\ filing\ and\ processing\ time\ lags.\ Historical\ data\ are\ updated\ when\ they\ are\ recieved.$ 

Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined\*\* ED Visits, 2015-16, Franklin County, OH

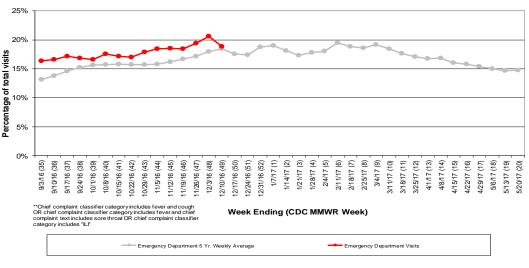
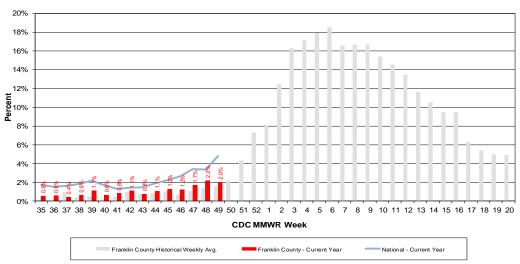


Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2016-17



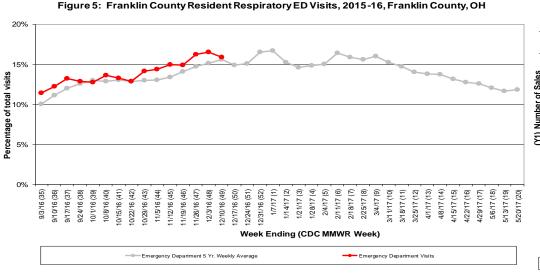
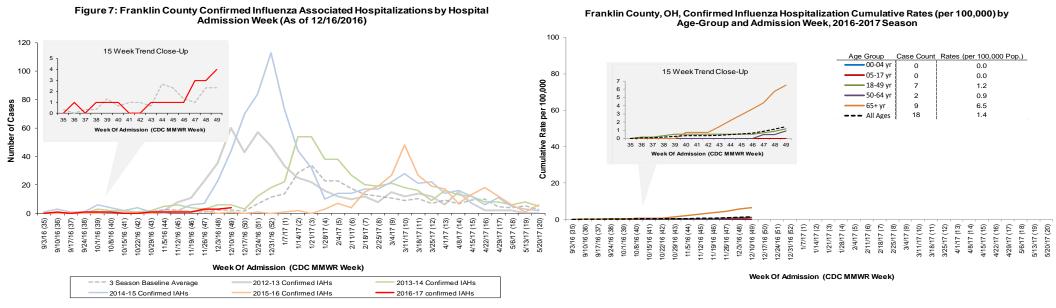


Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales, 2015-16, Franklin County, OH

28K
24K 29K (28)
1108H (28)



(Y2) Cough & Cold Sales